



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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New support for doctoral students

By Richard Cairney

The university has established a new fund to help support doctoral students.

The President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction will serve as a "top up" award that is designed to help attract the best and brightest doctoral students to the University of Alberta, says Provost and Vice President Academic Carl Amrhein.

Starting this fall, the \$10,000 prize will be made available to all Tri-council graduate scholarship and Trudeau Scholarship winners.

"It is a strategy for addressing what we consider to be a serious shortfall in graduate funding," said Amrhein, who said the university hopes to be able to extend the prize to master's degree students in the future.

"If you're a PhD student and you've been awarded Tri-council funding, you get the \$10,000 top up. It's automatic, so deans have the ability to deal directly with students."

The second step of the strategy is to provide follow-up support after the first year. In a doctoral student's second, third and fourth years, the university will cover tuition and fees.

The President's Doctoral Prize of Distinction will be funded through three sources: centrally (\$960,000), the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (\$650,000), and Faculty or Department contributions of \$5,000 for each winner of a Canadian Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral). These awards are available for recruitment for the 2008-09 academic year with funding to begin in September 2008. ■



Students from Athlone and Lauderdale elementary schools have a chat with Santa at the annual Students' Union Christmas Party.

SU spreads Christmas cheer

Elementary students visit Old Saint Nick

By Michael Brown

Santa himself couldn't throw a better children's Christmas party, so he stopped by the University of Alberta to see how it was done.

Ready with pizza, crafts, fresh-baked cookies, candy canes, music, decorations and a sack full of Christmas cheer, Santa's helpers decked the Dinwoodie Lounge with boughs of holly in preparation of the 13th annual Students' Union Christmas Party for Kids.

More than 360 children from Athlone and Lauderdale elementary schools were invited to the party, which included craft-making, cookie decorating and carol singing.

"This is a chance for us to volunteer

and reach out to the community," said Chris Le, Students' Union vice-president of student life. "We think it's important for students to have a diversity of experience here. This is a chance, as university students, to help out children and give them a benefit of enjoying the holiday season."

The Christmas Party for Kids, which alternates between the Catholic and Public school systems, pulled in an astounding 120 university volunteers, who made the day go off without a hitch.

"I liked it when we sang. We sang Jingle Bells and we sang Frosty the Snowman," said Ammera Hayley, a stu-

dent at Athlone, who was in the middle of some crafts and waiting her turn to see Santa.

"We do a lot of recruiting, and we have an SU volunteer serve list, but I think also one of the successes is word of mouth, getting people to say, 'Hey, are you coming?' " said Le. "If you take a look, people are clumping together, coming together as friends because they know it's a real good time to come and talk and have fun together."

Of course, that kind of energy could only bolster an action-packed day, which culminated in a visit from old St. Nick in the Myer Horowitz Theatre. ■



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Cutting the key to education

Reading program's having a dramatic effect on youngsters

By Michael Brown

A group of First Nations students is getting remedial reading help that will revitalize their perspectives on education, thanks to a reading program developed at the University of Alberta.

The program, called COGENT (Cognitive Enhancement Program), was introduced two years ago to Grade 3 students at Nipisihkopahk Primary School in Hobbema, in an effort to combat a consistently poor reading diagnosis that rates well below the national average.

"Unfortunately, the way our school system is set up, you progress through the grades as you will, and the work gets harder, but if you can't read you just won't understand it," said Kim Patriquin, a Nipisihkopahk third grade teacher who is using the program. "You keep struggling and that's where you have the dropouts; they can't comprehend what they're reading, or they don't know how to organize what they're reading, or they can't follow a sequence or an order of a story. They just get frustrated and say 'When I'm 16 I'm out of here.'"

Now, some promise to contrast that gloomy outlook is appearing on the horizon. After a year of COGENT being taught for 35 minutes a day, three times a week in Patriquin's classroom, 73 per cent of the students improved their reading and were

"Unfortunately, the way our school system is set up, you progress through the grades as you will, and the work gets harder, but if you can't read you just won't understand it."

— Kim Patriquin

no longer classified as very poor readers.

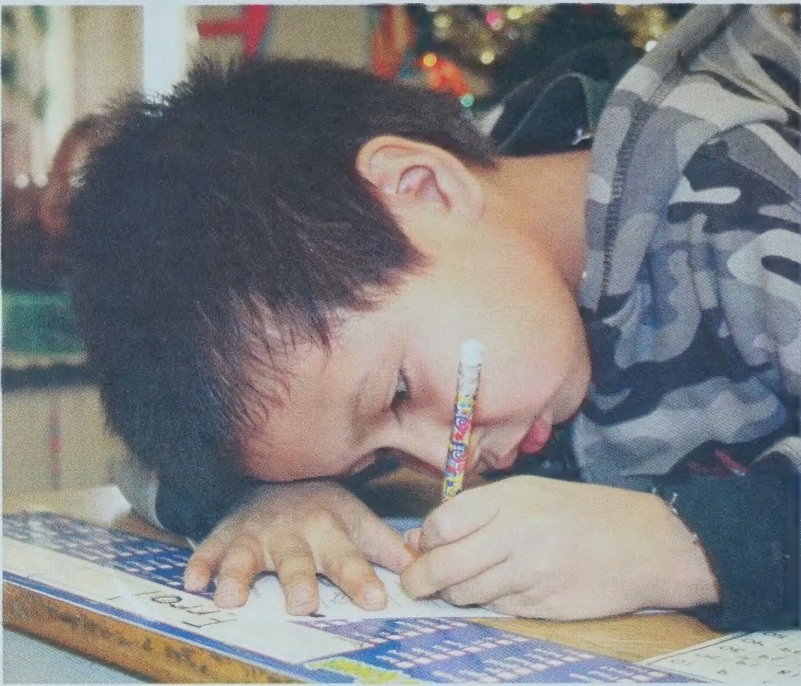
Developed by J.P. Das, emeritus professor in Educational Psychology with the U of A's J.P. Das Development Disabilities Centre, COGENT consists of five modules, each designed to activate different aspects of cognition, language and literacy, understanding relationships between words, sentences and stories and manipulating sounds and letters.

"What makes COGENT unique is that it addresses a lot of the underlying problems that create reading problems," said Denyse Hayward, U of A post doctoral fellow with the Canadian Centre for Research on Literacy. "A lot of reading programs deal with reading itself, figuring out what words say, figuring out how to read print and what it says, and focusing directly on the specific task of reading. This program tries to be holistic in its approach."

In fact, many of the reading skills that need development don't involve the act of reading at all, but involve other cognitive connections that pertain to things like language skills, background information, inferences and even speed.

"Children have reading difficulties for a variety of reasons," said Hayward. "It's not always that they're having trouble figuring out the print, there are other underlying issues contributing to the difficulty they're having at becoming successful readers."

One exercise that teaches children to pay attention to specific aspects of language and reading, has a teacher say a word out loud and ask the class to clap once if the word is a short and twice if they think the word is long. Once students get the hang of this activity externally, they are asked to clap internally, maybe thinking the word "clap," until the distinction becomes second nature.



Grade 3 students at the Nipisihkopahk Primary School in Hobbema are benefiting from a U of A reading program.

"The idea is that we use internal speech to plan what we are going to do and what we are going to pay attention to," said Hayward, adding that part of the program is teaching children to figure out things inductively. "It not only trains kids to pay attention to a particular piece of information but teaches them to use internalized speech."

Another unique aspect of COGENT is that it can be culturally malleable and made to be relevant to the lives of the students. Hayward says this is done simply by involving the class in the development of the task.

"Having them relate with materials that have nothing to do with their lives makes a difference to their engagement in it and their ownership," she said, adding the program has been successfully implemented in classrooms in both India and Spain. "When you're invested in something I personally think you do better."

Finally, reading enhancement programs of this ilk, for the most part, have typically involved isolating children from the

classroom for more personalized attention. And although COGENT was designed to be incorporated in full-sized classrooms of emergent readers, typically Grade 1 classes, the low readership abilities of Nipisihkopahk Primary School's Grade 3 class made it a perfect candidate for the program.

"It is much harder to make improvements on children with long-standing reading problems," said Hayward, who was impressed by the results. "Most programs tend to stabilize the problem so it doesn't get any worse, but they don't usually make such huge gains."

Since COGENT was introduced at Nipisihkopahk Primary School two years ago, Grade 3 students have been divided into two adapted classrooms and one regular. The adapted classrooms are made up of kids reading below a Grade 3 level, the lowest of which Patriquin takes under her COGENT wing.

"It's rewarding to see some students move from the adapted classroom to the regular classroom," Patriquin said. "As long as I'm here I'll be teaching it." ■

folio

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Top marks for med students

4th year students earn highest marks in Canada

By Michael Brown

For the first time since the University of Alberta started keeping track back in 1992, U of A medical students have posted the nation's top scores in part one of the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Exam.

The examination, designed to test medical and professional knowledge and the ability to assess and manage clinical problems, is given to medical students at the end of their fourth year prior to graduating. It was put in place to provide a uniform standard of qualification to practice medicine for all physicians across Canada. The qualification, known as the Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada, remains acceptable to all provincial medical regulatory authorities.

David Rayner, U of A's associate dean of undergraduate medical education, explained that the result is a great pat on the back, not only for this graduating class of 2007, but for the medical teachers as well.

"One thing you have to remember is

that all 17 medical schools in Canada turn out first-class doctors," said Rayner. "In a given year, the difference between first place and second or third probably doesn't mean much. But it's good to know we consistently place near the top of an excellent group of medical faculties."

This year, the class of 2007 not only grabbed first place overall, but also top spot in the specific areas of the exam relating to family medicine, internal medicine, surgery and clinical decision making.

What makes the results all the more impressive is that they come on the heels of a nervous past year for the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. On Oct. 5, 2006, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, which accredits and monitors medical programs in Canadian and American universities, notified U of A President Indira Samarasekera of its intent to place the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry on probation.

The committee issued the threat primarily on the basis that it felt the school

had too many lectures, versus hands-on training for medical students. The probation was appealed and overturned last February thanks to a promise to address the committee's concerns, as well as proof that the U of A already supplements lectures with a variety of other learning styles.

"Many of these were process and communication issues, so we rolled up our sleeves and got down to work, and we're fixing them," said Rayner. "A lot of good ideas and innovations came out of the accreditation process, so even though it's sometimes been a rough ride, it's had a very positive effect on our program."

"There's no conflict between the Medical Council of Canada results and the accrediting bodies. We know we've got a good program with outstanding students, and the accreditation committees told us ways we can make it even better."

The exam was the first of two parts, the second of which is given to those who passed the first during their second year of residency. ■

Icefields battles it out in Canada Reads

Astronaut will defend creative writing professor's novel

By Geoff McMaster

Thomas Wharton is used to a certain amount of attention. He's either won or been short-listed for some of the biggest literary accolades, including the Governor General's Award and last year's Impac/Dublin Prize. But when it comes to sheer popularity, the inclusion of his first novel, *Icefields*, in CBC's Canada Reads competition could give him a whole new profile.

"It's wonderful – it's a 12-year-old book now, and to have it back in the spotlight so more people will read it – a writer can't ask for anything better than that," said the creative writing professor.

Canada Reads is a national literary competition, broadcast on CBC's Radio One and hosted by Jian Ghomeshi, in which five celebrity panelists defend their favourite Canadian books. They hold a series of debates, and after each, a book is voted off the list by a national poll until one book is left standing. Now in its seventh season, Canada Reads will tape in January and broadcast the last week of February.

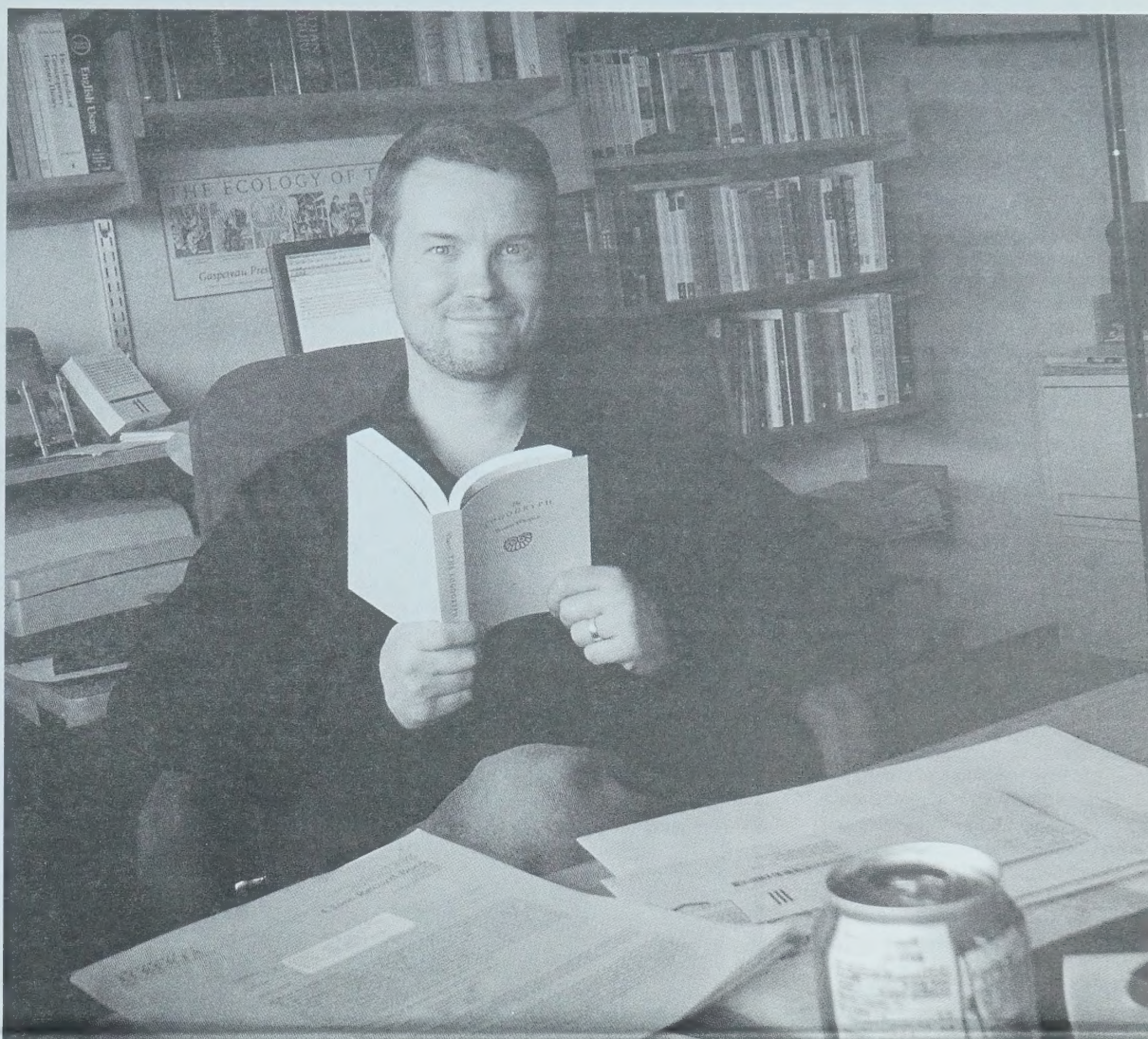
Icefields was chosen by astronaut Steve MacLean. "I was a bit surprised by that, for sure, to know that someone from that kind of field was reading the book. So I'm really, really interested to hear what he has to say," said Wharton.

"I suspect he's coming at it from a kind of scientific perspective, so he's probably interested in the fact that it's about, among other things, glaciers and ice melting – so I guess it has a kind of relevance to things going on with the climate these days."

Set in Jasper, Alta., in the 19th century, *Icefields* is a poetic rendering of the town's transformation from settlement to tourist destination. It captures the breathtaking beauty and mystery of the Canadian Rockies, and the eccentric characters who first populated its settlements. Wharton wrote the novel in the early 1990s as a master's project under Rudy Wiebe at the U of A. It was published in 1995 by Newest Press, with Wiebe as general editor.

"He was pretty tough, and back then it was pretty painful to meet with his sometimes harsh critiques," said Wharton. "But in the end I look back and realize that was absolutely important, to have somebody put that kind of spotlight on it and make me think really hard."

The staff at Newest are understandably over the moon about the selection of *Icefields* for Canada Reads, since small presses rarely get this kind of recognition. "It's the first time an Alberta author has been chosen of the 35 titles



Thomas Wharton wrote *Icefields* while earning his master's at the U of A.

in the competition over the past seven years, and there have been maybe only two other smallish presses," said Lou Morin of Newest Press.

The publisher has ordered a run of 15,000 for *Icefields*, anticipating high demand at book stores. Their typical print run for a new book is between 1,000 and 2,000 said Morin, adding that Canada Reads is second only to the Giller Prize in terms of its national impact on sales.

Morin hopes to work with CBC on holding a symposium in Edmonton with Maclean, Wharton and U of A biologist David Schindler on some of the issues

touched on in *Icefields*, including the disappearance of glaciers and the shrinking Athabasca River.

Other contestants in Canada Reads are Mavis Gallant's *From the Fifteenth District*, defended by author Lisa Moore; Paul Quarrington's *King Leary*, defended by the Rheostatics' Dave Bidini; Nalo Hopkinson's *Brown Girl in the Ring*, defended by Much Music critic Jemini; and Timothy Findley's *Not Wanted on the Voyage*, defended by Zaib Shaikh of *Little Mosque on the Prairie*. The contest airs on CBC between Feb. 25 (Wharton's birthday) and 29.

Those awaiting Wharton's next book will

be pleased to hear he's working on a fantasy trilogy called *The Perilous Realm*, the first part of which will be released next fall with Doubleday. It's about "a boy who stumbles into this other world where all stories come from," said Wharton. "He finds he's in a story, and if he wants to get home he has to get to the end of the story. I'm bringing in all kinds of characters from traditional stories and playing around with them."

"The way I look at it is, ever since Harry Potter, fantasy seems to have become popular with everybody, so I would say it's for ages 11 and up, with something there for adult readers too." ■

The radical librarian

Toni Samek earns teaching award

By Ileiren Poon

Toni Samek is a librarian who isn't interested in 'shushing' anyone.

Samek's version of the librarian is, instead, a passionate defender of freedom of information.

"I really see librarianship as quite a radical profession," said the University of Alberta professor in the School of Library and Information. "We are a feminized profession, certainly in the western context. We really stand for equitable access to information, which goes against the grain of what is predominant these days, such as global market fundamentalism. It can be very tricky, risky work in the face of social change, war and revolution, terrorism and anti-terrorism legislation."

Samek recently received the first ever annual Library Journal Teaching Award,

which recognizes excellence in educating the next generation of librarians. It included a \$5,000 cash prize and a reception in her honour held at the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia.

"It's really great and great for the school and great for the U of A," Samek said of being named the inaugural recipient of the prize. "But there are so many people that came before me that paved the way for this, and I'm the one getting caught up in the light. I felt a little self-conscious about winning when a lot of other people broke the ground, but I'll accept it for all of us."

Candidates up for the award were judged on how they illustrate student-centered thinking in all aspects of teaching, communicate the core principles of librari-

anship and effectively integrate theory, practice and research, infusing teaching with real-life librarianship.

U of A grad Kenneth Garipey, who nominated Samek, says her teaching "is deeply informed by her commitment to, and scholarship in, human rights and the core values of the profession."

One of the other criteria for the award is forward thinking – keeping up with cutting-edge issues in the profession, which are moving targets in this day and age, said Samek.

"From access to government records to downloading music, privacy, confidentiality and freedom of information are all a part of 21st century life," she said. "You can't teach librarianship in a vacuum. When you make these issues relevant, it's fun because you're never bored and it's hard to feel like

you're disconnected from the world."

And, while Samek says it is time for the image of the librarian to change, she'd be happy to make sure that kids growing up today know what a librarian is at all.

"In the 1970s, there were about 500 teacher-librarians in Alberta schools, and now there are about 70 or 80," she said. "Kids growing up now, without a librarian or well-stocked libraries – will they even have the same sense of the right to read and the right to read anonymously?"

The Internet is a fine tool, she added, "but the librarian is more than a single tool – they connect an individual and the community to the information they need. They're trained to find relevant information, while negotiating the troubling territory of censorship and advocating when there are gaps in the information." ■

To boldly go ... U of A library is about to get out of this world

Academics eagerly awaiting arrival of science fiction mother lode

By Illeiren Poon

A book collection that can be measured in tons instead of volumes will make the University of Alberta's one of the pre-eminent science-fiction and fantasy collections in the country, allowing researchers to dig into genres that are finally earning some respect in academic circles.

Chester Cuthbert, 95, donated his life's collection of science-fiction materials to the university this fall. Over the course of decades, the Winnipeg resident managed to acquire a selection of literature that will take years for U of A staff and volunteers to catalogue and quantify. For now, says Merrill Distad, associate director of the U of A libraries, they're measuring the collection in tons.

"It's just about 45 tons," said Distad. "I've got 74 large pallets with over 2,000 boxes on them, sitting in a warehouse in Winnipeg. They'll be loaded onto three 54-foot-long trailers and hauled to a warehouse in the west end of Edmonton, because the university doesn't have a place big enough to house all of them at one time. At a wild, outside guess, we're talking about as many as 60,000 items – books, journals, magazines, fanzines and personal notes."

The collection will be a windfall for academics interested in science fiction and fantasy and will advance the study of literary genres that have struggled to be taken seriously.

"Back in the day, Chester would be riding the bus to work and see fellow commuters reading books he was familiar with, but with the covers torn off," Distad said of the low esteem science fiction and fantasy were once condemned to.

But in today's literary circles, the books are gaining respect, says Douglas Barbour, a U of A professor emeritus in English and Film Studies.

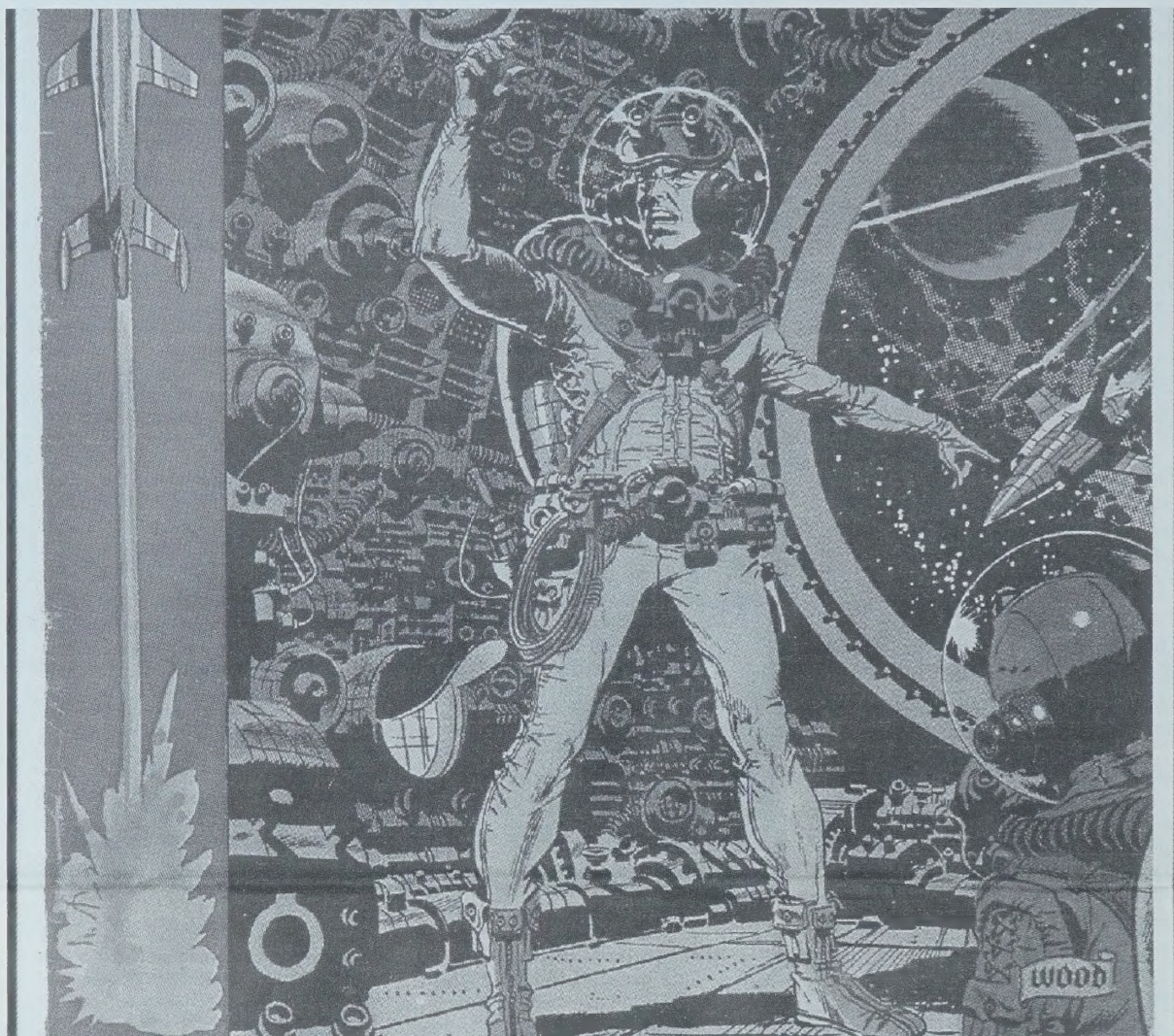
"That marginalization probably isn't as great now as it was once, because of academic interest on one level. There is an international science-fiction research association, conferences held on science fiction and fantasy," he said. "Here in Canada, since the '60s and '70s when young people were beginning to write this kind of work and also, simultaneously, being university students, getting a double dose of literary writing and their own fascination with the genre, we have a large number of internationally recognized science fiction writers."

Canadian authors like Guy Gavriel Kay, Peter Watts, Phyllis Gottlieb, Dave Duncan, Charles de Lint, Robert Charles Wilson and Edmonton's own Candace Jane Dorsey have been blazing a trail of exceptional writing, says Barbour. "In this country, the interest has grown alongside the growth of the writing community."

For current university students, science fiction and fantasy hold the same allure for readers as any other of the more 'literary' genres, said Orion Kidder, a U of A English and Film Studies grad student whose work focuses on comic books and graphic novels. When Kidder was young, science fiction was simply a place for his imagination, but it led to a lifelong love of the genre.

"The two shows my father and I could watch together when I was a kid were The Muppet Show and Star Trek. I think those two television shows shaped my psyche as much as anything else," said Kidder. "But the older I got the more I realized how powerful fantasy can be as a way of talking about the real world in such a way that you defamiliarize it, or you can work your way around certain kinds of censorship or resistances. It's just very powerful as a genre."

"You can tell stories that people would



Once derided as disposable, science fiction and fantasy literature are earning respect. The U of A has received an enormous collection of works from Chester Cuthbert.

normally just outwardly reject right away – 'How dare you even try to tell me that?' If you wrap it up in those different terms, suddenly you're free to look at a situation from a different point of view."

Kidder points to Kay's novel *Tigana*, as an example.

"Guy Gavriel Kay's an example of a writer working in high fantasy, doing very astutely political stuff," said Kidder of the book, which is about a sorcerer-oppressed city-state. "It sells very well in countries that have been invaded. Big surprise, it's a book about what it's like to have your entire culture destroyed by military aggression. It uses a fantasy conceit for that, but this book does really, really well in the former Baltic states and Korea and a few other places where that's a real thing – having your culture obliterated is not a fantastic device, it's just what happened."

Of course, there is a danger that, as sci-fi and fantasy become more widely accepted, the ability to speak freely will fade.

"This is the advantage of being the outsider. You get to scream your head off and say silly things. There are times when I don't want my favourite genres to be accepted by the mainstream, because then they'd have to conform," said Kidder.

Barbour agrees. "There's that famous comment that goes back probably a couple decades – 'Let's get science fiction out of the classroom and back into the gutter where it belongs' – made by fans who were worried that the excitement and generative energy of the genre is being lost because so much academic interest is being placed on it."

One of the more interesting aspects of Chester Cuthbert's collection is the amount

of correspondence and personal reflection it contains.

"The correspondence files are important. He corresponded with Hugo Gernsback, for whom the Hugo Award is named after," said Distad. "He also wrote a synopsis of every book he read and his opinions of it, like 'Won't waste my time reading this one again.' He did that for his own purposes. He didn't actually publish them or share them with anyone."

Now, of course, the Internet has only served to grow that fan sense of ownership over their favourite sci-fi stories.

"One of the things that the Web has given a whole generation of nerds is the assumption that we get to interact, that we can e-mail our favourite writers and stars and they might answer," said Kidder. "The idea that this isn't a one-way exchange is really deep in the nerd-geek-tech culture at this point."

It will take years to sort through the thousands of boxes of material that Cuthbert has given to the U of A. "I've already had one PhD student from Los Angeles call and ask if she can use the material," said Distad. "Maybe by the time she's got tenure somewhere, we'll have it all catalogued."

The careful sorting and preservation of this collection is very important, said English and Film Studies professor Christopher Gordon-Craig. "Some of those older fantasy and sci-fi volumes could be very interesting. I'm speaking here as a biblio-maniac at home. Some of those old paperbacks are very, very hard to find," he said. "Those will need preservation of course, very carefully."

The 'throw-away' nature of a lot of

"These are pulp novels, same thing with comic books. If we don't make a really concerted effort to save them, we will lose them forever."

– Orion Kidder

these publications makes it that much more important to save them, said Kidder.

"The archivist's answer is that these are cheap books, printed on cheap paper, that were specifically designed to be thrown away. These are pulp novels, same thing with comic books. If we don't make a really concerted effort to save them, we will lose them forever," he said.

"The fact is, the popular deserves our attention. If, as a literature department, we fail to pay attention to the popular, we are not doing our jobs," said Kidder. "These are the books that people read in huge numbers and have done for the last several decades. Therefore, they are a huge part of our culture; therefore they are a huge part of our conception of politics, of democracy, of gender, of ethnicity, of nationhood, of all these different things." ■

Webproofing 101

Prof offers advice on keeping kids safe online

By Geoff McMaster

When it comes to protecting children from seamy influences in cyberspace, parents too often put the cart before the horse, says psychologist Connie Varnhagen.

The knee-jerk solution to shielding children from corrupting Internet content is to install monitoring software that blocks access to certain categories of information - anything containing pornographic language or images, for example. Certainly there are situations where blocking is effective and appropriate, says Varnhagen, particularly for young children. But the software is also flawed and doesn't teach kids how to use the Web with discretion.

So she and her colleagues are developing new tools that develop critical thinking skills by prompting Web users with questions as they surf, encouraging them to become more aware of their choices. The truth is that none of us, adults as well as children, are all that good at using the Internet critically, says Varnhagen, and so that's precisely where the learning has to start.

"Just as we can't wrap kids in bubble wrap when they go outside to play, and we can't hold their hands until they're in college to cross the street, we need to help them develop these skills on their own," she said.

The professor of psychology spoke about her research in a Lunch by the Books, a free public discussion at the Stanley Milner Library recently. The talk was entitled *Children and the World Wide Web*.

Some of her discussion centred on the success she and her colleagues have had with new, "just-in-time" Internet teaching tools, such as one called RateIt. Varnhagen describes it as "a little box that floats over your browser." As you scroll through a page it prompts the reader with a series of questions, such as, "Can you find the author? Can you find the date it was last updated? Do you trust the information?"

"It's kind of like having a teacher or parent ask the questions," she said. "At the end it will come back with, 'This probably isn't a very good website, or this is a great website.' The idea is that after a while the



Psychology professor Connie Varnhagen says there are sensible tools to teach children to protect themselves online.

child will start to internalize these questions and no longer require the guidance."

Another software tool devised by psychology student Steve Kirkham (inventor of Bear Scat, a U of A online course registration system), is "an overlay interface" that works in conjunction with social networking programs like Nexopia, Facebook or MySpace. Whenever the user is about to post personal information, it throws up a note of caution.

"For example, if you try to post your phone number, the software overlay will do a reverse look-up, come back with your address and say, 'This is how easy it is to find your address - do you really want to post your phone number?' It's not saying, 'No, you can't do this,' but it's making the child or youth aware that they might want to think about some of the things they're

doing," said Varnhagen.

Beyond these helpful tools, Varnhagen offers some simple advice as old as parenting itself: it comes down to solid dose of common sense - spend time with children on the computer and guide them through the payoffs and pitfalls of searching. "Keep the computer in the living room, spend time with your child, and help them recognize what's good and what's not so good."

"A parent should be saying, 'Before you include that resource in your school report, you might want to check the facts,' or 'Before you start communicating with this person, you might want to think about what you're going to talk about.'"

Varnhagen will also share what she's learned examining children's use of the Web in schools, including the performance of Internet-monitoring software. Programs

like Net Nanny, can over-block, she says, restricting access to any site that has any reference to words like "sex." Students searching online for information for a class essay on the sexual reproduction of polar bears just might be out of luck.

And yet, despite these overzealous restrictions, the software still allows salacious sites to fall through the cracks. "We were doing a study in the schools using very detailed blocking, and still got a sex site coming up. The researcher immediately closed down the browser and that was that. But there are things that can slip through."

For those who insist on blocking, however, Varnhagen's advice would be to bypass the commercial software: "Go straight to Google and set restrictions for most protective." ■

Smokescreen

Study finds tobacco firms marketing to teens

By Isabela Varela

Joe Camel may be long gone, but that doesn't mean tobacco companies have abandoned their efforts to get young people hooked on smoking.

A new Canadian study reports that tobacco marketers have found a way around tobacco advertising restrictions, reaching teens by marketing in retail shops located near high schools. The findings, recently published in the *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, suggest the strategy is working.

"At the time of the study, we found that, compared to retail stores near schools with low smoking prevalence, stores near schools with high smoking prevalence had significantly lower prices per cigarette, more in-store promotions and fewer government-sponsored health warnings," said School of Public Health professor Candace Nykiforuk, the study's co-author.

The tobacco marketing activity that takes place in stores - known as point-of-purchase marketing - is a sophisticated strategy designed to counter positive public health initiatives such as tax increases on tobacco, policies restricting cigarette advertising and anti-smoking legislation, says Nykiforuk. It can take the form of tobacco promotions, power wall displays, advertisements and discounted cigarette prices.

U.S.-based studies have estimated that three out of four adolescents visit retail shops at least once a week, which makes the retail store a powerful venue where teens can be exposed routinely to point-of-purchase marketing.

Nykiforuk was part of a team of researchers that looked at tobacco point-of-purchase activities in more than 400 retail stores located in 81 randomly selected school neighbourhoods across Canada, and just over 22,000 students in Grades 10-11 were surveyed in the study. The majority of retailers located within the school neighbourhoods sold tobacco products, and approximately half of these retailers exhibited tobacco promotional activities. Only a few stores had government-sponsored health warning signs.

Schools with a smoking prevalence greater than 20.6 per cent had more neighbourhood stores with in-store tobacco promotions and access to lower prices on cigarettes. "We also observed that schools with a lower smoking prevalence had more stores in the neighbourhood that posted government health warning signs about smoking," said Nykiforuk.

The researchers say the strength of this study is in highlighting the relationship

"Stores near schools with high smoking prevalence had significantly lower prices per cigarette, more in-store promotions and fewer government-sponsored health warnings."

- Candace Nykiforuk

between increased activities in retail stores in the school neighbourhood and school smoking prevalence.

"This suggests that point-of-purchase activities contribute to an environment that promotes student smoking," the study concludes.

However, Nykiforuk sees many possibilities to counter the tobacco industry's marketing tactics. "At the time of this study, there were few regulations on point-of-purchase in Canada. Since then, several provinces and territories - including Alberta - have adopted or are planning

to adopt legislation to regulate it. This is a great start, but we can do more."

"Schools should be encouraged to work with retailers in their area to address the posting of health warnings in stores and to support reduced access to tobacco. Legislators should think about stronger regulations that eliminate point-of-purchase advertising or prohibit the sale of tobacco in school neighbourhoods. And future research should consider the presence of school programs and policies that could influence smoking prevalence, as well as community variables." ■

100 years later, the U of A in maps

New book chronicles physical history of campus

By Richard Cairney

When you're writing a book about something as enormous as 100 years of history at the U of A, a few good stories are going to be left out – you can't publish everything.

That's why, after the release of last year's *I Was There: A century of alumni stories about the University of Alberta 1906 – 2006*, Ellen Schoeck went to work on her second U of A history book, *The University of Alberta: A Century of Campus Maps*.

The 36-page, large-format book is a collection of maps, photographs and stories that document the physical evolution of the university, from the first hand-drawn outlines of River Lot 5 to present-day computer-aided representations.

Schoeck became fascinated with campus maps literally by accident, although it was her interest in the university's history that led her to what is regarded as the oldest campus map.

Years ago, former U of A archivist Jim Parker gave Schoeck a 1912-13 university calendar which had once belonged to William Kerr, who had served both as a dean of Arts and Sciences and, later, as U of A president. Inside the calendar's pages, Schoeck found a folded piece of paper.

"I started to fold it out, and fold it out, and fold it out and it is the first map of the campus that I or any of my researchers could find – and it shows, in black, the four original ring houses, Athabasca Hall, our first building, Assiniboia Hall, and behind that, the old gym and dining room," said Schoeck. "What you see is the very clear outline of the original 258 acres and there is nothing in it except these two teaching and residential buildings, the four ring houses and St. Stephen's, which really didn't belong to us."

"You take this map and compare it to our current map and it is just absolutely mind boggling."

The new book was designed by Dennis Weber, with the university's Creative Services unit, who is responsible, among other things, for some of the current campus maps. Weber says the book helps solve some campus mysteries.

"I've always wondered about things like why the Tuck Shop Tree was way over by the Faculty Club. It's nowhere near



Ellen Schoeck examines the oldest known campus map. Her new book, *The University of Alberta: A Century of Campus Maps*, was released this week.

where the Tuck Shop was," said Weber. "Ellen is one of the few people who is a great resource about campus and knows why it is the way it is. So having her share her knowledge has helped make the contemporary maps even better. We've now got cultural references included, like the trees, but also things like museum icons,

and where the new water landscape features are."

So why is the Tuck Shop Tree located next to the Faculty Club when the Tuck Shop, a campus confectionary that was demolished in the late 1960s, was closer to the present-day Fine Arts Building? Photos taken of the Tuck Shop show the rare but-

ternut tree – a species that is not supposed to be able to survive Edmonton's harsh winters. When the Tuck Shop was torn down, most people assumed the tree went with it.

But a friend of Schoeck's mailed her a copy of an interview with former university landscaper Huge Knowles, who mentions the fact that he had saved the tree.

Today, you can see the Tuck Shop Tree to the left of the Faculty Club main entrance, as you enter the building. This past summer, a plaque was installed nearby identifying the tree.

"There are three 'heritage' trees now marked on the campus map," Weber points out. "Working on a project like this, you get a chance to see how things have developed over the years. It fills in some blanks."

But not all of them.

One map, Schoeck points out, has nine "mystery buildings" marked on it.

"These buildings are part of the maps of the university but there was no indication as to what they were to be," Schoeck said, adding that she hopes someone will come forward with answers to the questions the map raises.

Schoeck was first offered the expertise of the Creative Services unit by the then-acting vice president of external relations at the time Claudette Tardif, former Campus Saint-Jean dean.

And the new book probably wouldn't have come about without the help of Provost and Vice President Academic Carl Amrhein, who originally offered to ensure Schoeck's research was "made available" to the public. A geographer, Amrhein was instantly drawn to the idea of a book of maps.

"When Ellen told me she had maps – that triggered the geographer reaction," said Amrhein. "I said 'Maps? You don't send maps to the archives – you publish them.'"

"We had all this artwork about 80 per cent complete and it looked like it was going to die," said Weber. "So kudos to Ellen and Carl for finding a way to make this happen. This is a one-in-a-100-year project too – how often do you get to work on something this?"

"I'm just thrilled – I had a lot of fun doing this," said Schoeck. "It's incredibly satisfying." ■

Have you seen this man?

University launches search for missing banner

By Bev Betkowski

The University of Alberta is on the hunt for a missing banner of St. George, which disappeared in 1983, and the U of A would like to bring it home for centenary celebrations.

The St. George's banner was presented to the U of A in 1911 by Albert Henry George, fourth Lord Earl Grey, who was Governor General of Canada at the time and namesake of the Canadian Football League's Grey Cup.

The banner is one in a series of Lord Grey banners, which were handmade by middle and upper-class British women and were given as gifts through the office of Earl Grey.

The decorative piece of scarlet cloth, emblazoned with an embroidered emerald green and gold depiction of St. George slaying his dragon, is thought to be the only banner that was presented to a university in Western Canada. One was also presented to a Nova Scotia university, three in Quebec, five in Ontario and two travelled back to England when Lord

Grey left office in 1911.

At the U of A, the banner was taken to Convocation Hall each spring to symbolize the exchange of power between the outgoing and incoming students' unions.

"With the University of Alberta celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2008, we want to include this symbolic piece of heritage in a special centenary exhibit which will be mounted in January of 2008," said Lucie Heins, co-ordinator of the exhibit. "It would also be a fitting time to repatriate the banner."

The colourful silk banner was last seen in 1983, when it was displayed in the Students' Union Building to celebrate the U of A's 75th anniversary. It went missing after that.

Anyone who knows of the banner's whereabouts is asked to call Marijke Kerkhoven, Collections Manager for the University of Alberta's Clothing and Textiles Collection at 780-492-2528, no questions asked. ■



This Lord Grey banner went missing in 1983. The university is hoping to recover it in time for to celebrate its Centenary in 2008.

Top of the morning from the bottom of the world

Prof in Antarctica keeps in touch with small-town students

By Richard Cairney

This time of year, most kids are fixated on a certain bearded gent from the North Pole. But a class of Grade 1 and 2 students in the small Alberta town of Milk River, just north of the Canada-U.S. border, have been getting first-hand information about an international research project in the Antarctic.

While conducting research in the Antarctic for the past six weeks, geophysics professor Doug Schmitt maintained an online blog for his sister-in-law Janelle Schmitt's students at Milk River Elementary School. Schmitt even took time to speak with the students via satellite phone Dec. 6.

"I was surprised a bit in that they asked not so much about penguins and seals – they seemed to be confident that they were experts on them already," Doug joked. "But they did ask a lot of questions about rocks, so when I updated the blog later in the day I added some more information about rocks."

Janelle and her student asked the U of A professor to take a paper doll named Flat Stanley to the Antarctic with him, to help teach her class about conditions there. Based on a children's book character, Flat Stanley is the mascot for a long-running Canadian school outreach program. Students send Flat Stanley off to a host school, scientist or other role model. Flat Stanley's host then documents their travels and activities together, and sends back reports.

Doug packed Flat Stanley for his trip to Antarctica with an international research team looking into climate change indicators.

"The students were so receptive to this," said Janelle. "It started out as a small thing, and it really snowballed. The fact that he built the blog for us was really important to them and they learned a lot about Antarctica."

So did the researchers. "The polar regions are sensitive indicators of the Earth's overall climate. The main goal of the project is to obtain complete rock cores from the McMurdo Sound," said Doug, who recently returned to Edmonton. "The type of rock found in these cores can tell what the Earth's climate has been doing over about the last 10 millennia or so. A marine-type rock indicates open ocean and a globally warmer climate, and a glacial rock deposit means the Earth was cooler."

Schmitt's trip was sponsored by ANDRILL, a collaboration of more than 200 scientists, students and educators from five nations (Germany, Italy, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the U.S.) to recover rock layer records from Antarctica.

But one of the highlights, obviously, was interacting with the Grade 1 students.

"They asked a lot of questions about why it is so cold and icy down there, and to some degree that is part of what we are try-



ing to learn down with this and other drilling projects that have been carried out from ships," he said.

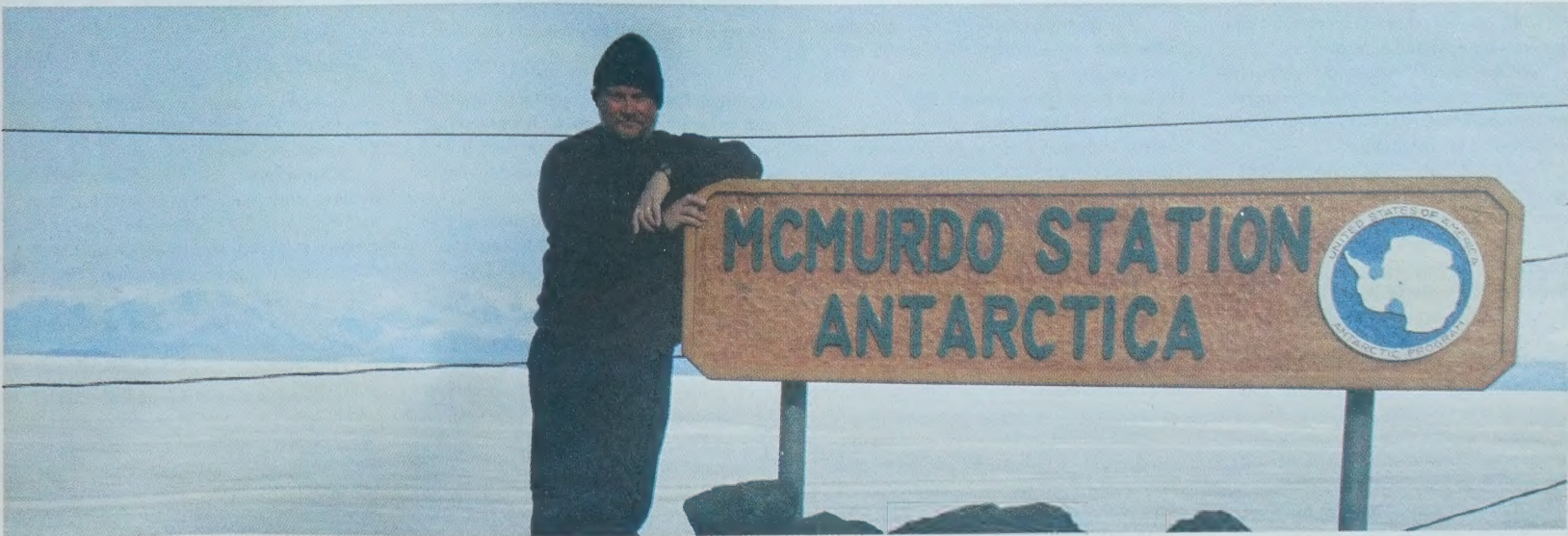
"It probably has to do a lot with plate tectonics and the motion of the continents that came apart enough that Antarctica became isolated and the southern ocean currents could be set up to flow all the way around it. But that's too much to tell Grade 1 students so I just tried to make the link with plate motions, which some of them actually knew about already, and how that has an effect on the whole planet."

"I was surprised a bit in that they asked not so much about penguins and seals – they seemed to be confident that they were experts on them already."

– Doug Schmitt

"A lot of them asked the simplest questions, which are the hardest to answer, like "why is it so cold – why is it

so icy there?" Well, that's what we're trying to figure out, so it isn't that easy of a question to answer." ■



Geophysics professor Doug Schmitt kept in touch with elementary students in Milk River while conducting research in the Antarctic.

Mountain ecosystems at risk

Research documents environmental response to warming

By Ileiren Poon

Ernest Hemmingway’s legendary snows of Kilimanjaro could soon be a fable.

“Those famous white peaks could be gone in 50 years,” said Ryan Danby, a post-doctoral research fellow in the Department of Biological Sciences. “It’s probably one of the best examples to illustrate the effect of climate change on mountainous regions.”

Mountains occupy 22 per cent of the Earth’s terrestrial surface, supply freshwater to nearly half the world’s people and support a disproportionate amount of the planet’s biodiversity. Yet this importance is often overlooked. The United Nations declared 2002 as International Year of Mountains to draw attention to the significance of the Earth’s mountainous regions. Now, every Dec. 11 carries the title International Mountain Day. The theme for 2007 is Facing Change: Climate Change in Mountain Areas.

“In many ways, mountains represent the planet’s ‘third pole,’” said Danby, adding that the theme is particularly relevant during this International Polar Year.

Such relevance is especially applicable when David Hik, a U of A professor and executive director of Canada’s International Polar Year Secretariat, leads an IPY research project examining the effects of global change on northern mountain regions.

“There are many similarities between the issues facing the Earth’s polar regions and its mountain regions,” said Hik. “Both are particularly susceptible to the impacts of climate change and both stand to be altered significantly with continued warming.”

Danby is working with Hik to determine how the landscape of Canada’s highest mountain range might change with continued climate warming.

“Receding glaciers and advancing tree-lines are the two most striking consequences

of global change in mountain regions,” said Danby. “Our study of the St. Elias Mountains in southwest Yukon will compile all available information to forecast how these two landscape elements will change in the future, and what these changes might mean for the plants, animals and people of this region.”

While the concept of advancing tree-lines might not seem problematic as habitat boundaries change, some species can face an uncertain future.

“Pikas, for example, are very sensitive to temperature change,” Danby said. A relative of the rabbit, Pikas are small mammals that make their homes in northern mountain areas. “Their bodies can’t stand to go above a certain threshold. And as climate change pushes more temperate habitat up the mountain, their own habitat simply has nowhere to go.”

A new study by Danby and Hik appears in the December issue of the journal *Arctic*. It documents the advance of treeline in southwest Yukon over the last 50 years by comparing early aerial photographs of the region with the most recent photographs. Danby and Hik concluded that the changes can be attributed to more favourable growing seasons over the last half century as a result of climate warming. This has allowed spruce trees to expand into areas formerly occupied only by alpine tundra.

“The findings are consistent with what’s being observed in most other mountain areas around the globe,” said Danby. “The challenge ahead is to piece all of these studies together, along with the host of studies that have documented the recession of alpine glaciers during the last century, and emerge with products that have utility in managing mountain regions and their unique resources.”

As for International Mountain Day,



Pikas, a cousin to rabbits, rely on cold, mountain habitat for survival. Climate change is affecting the mountaintop ecosystem the Pikas inhabit.

Danby would just like to be able to use the event to increase people’s awareness of these sensitive and important areas.

“People tend to think of mountains as these pristine wildernesses. But they’re not unaffected; they’re not beyond the human

footprint,” he said. “And while mountains are incredibly important as far as talking about fresh water and biodiversity, there is also a deep spiritual value to mountains. Why do people say they’re getting away to the mountains? Because it’s an escape.” ■

Scholarship supports environment markets

MBA student’s internship opens doors to trading experience

By Michael Brown

Whether governments are ready to sign up for accountability-laden emission reducing targets or not, business is. And it is opening up a new type of market that a School of Business MBA student is learning to broker deals in.

Dan Stickney, an MBA student and current EPCOR scholarship recipient, was on hand to help welcome EPCOR’s two-pronged \$1.5 million donation on campus last week – a \$500,000 portion of the gift will put in place a scholarship for those who conduct research into energy markets and climate change issues.

“My focus is on energy markets and the environment, specifically emissions credits and offsets and emissions trading,” said Stickney who is completing a joint MBA-Master of Forestry degree with a specialization in Natural Resources and Energy. “I was working with EPCOR to see how they can meet their voluntary emission reduction targets.”

Credit trading mechanisms are increasing in popularity as a method to mitigate the negative effects of economic growth, by contributing to sustainability.

Stickney believes that many professional opportunities exist in these markets, characterized by their lack of standardization and expertise. Over the summer, Stickney was part of an internship in Peru, exploring potential credit market buyers, quantifying carbon inventory, and determining the most appropriate mix of market mechanisms to protect the threatened rainforest areas.

With the Kyoto Accord a non-starter federally, what has emerged is an emission reduction target system that sees big businesses align their practices with the emerging environmental social conscience at large, and volunteering to help limit emissions.

Stickney says that one of the easiest ways a company can meet its self-imposed

emission reductions is through carbon credit trading. Companies in developed nations, where emission reductions often come at the expense of progress, can pay companies in developing countries that have more than exceeded their emission goals, for their excess carbon credits.

“It is essentially a market mechanism,” Stickney said. “If company B can reduce its emissions easier by doing in-house things, they can sell their credits beyond their compliance, to company A to help meet that company’s compliance needs.”

“Under a business-as-usual scenario, the government of Peru might be cutting down X amount of forest per year. If they reduce that amount, that reduces the amount of carbon that would have been emitted into the atmosphere. So they could potentially generate credits by doing this.”

This means companies looking to meet their own emission-reduction targets can pay the government of Peru, or some landholder, not to clear so much land.

The idea behind this scholarship emerged during a trip to the Peruvian Amazon by School of Business Dean Mike Percy, where he learned of the details surrounding a transcontinental highway that was making its way to Peru.

Percy says construction of the highway through Brazil cleared a swath of jungle roughly the size of Belgium. It was during discussions with Peruvian stakeholders that Percy decided a foray into the business of the environment might make for a meaningful internship experience.

“We think this would be ideal for our MBA program to focus on environmental issues, and it would link activities right at the ground,” said Percy. “We wanted to explore what it would take in terms of incentives for indigenous people not to shift out of hav-



MBA student Dan Stickney will benefit from a new EPCOR scholarship.

ing jungle habitat and jungle crops, and not shift to commercial crops. As it worked out, we’ll send another student next year. In fact, we’re open for this kind of placement for our MBAs anywhere in the world.”

Stickney’s work is funded through the Centre for Applied Business Research in Energy and the Environment. EPCOR’s contribution will continue to fund researchers and students whose focus of study is on energy markets, electricity restructuring and climate change issues.

The remaining \$1 million is earmarked for The Canadian Centre for Clean Coal and Mineral Process Technologies, based in the Faculty of Engineering.

The centre’s researchers are focusing on the chemistry of metal extraction, coal cleaning, fine particle processing, waste management, bitumen extraction and related tech-

nologies. As a major user of coal in electrical generation, EPCOR is keenly interested in the centre’s work.

“Our students and researchers are conducting work in engineering and business that will ensure EPCOR remains one of the country’s top industry leaders,” said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. “This is a textbook example of how the corporate-university partnership should work. It’s a win-win for both institutions.”

“Leading-edge research and informed public policy is a benefit to all Canadians,” said Don Lowry, EPCOR president and CEO. “EPCOR is an industry leader and supporting these initiatives with one of Canada’s top universities is an important and necessary contribution to Canada’s environmental health. We’re incredibly fortunate to have this expertise right next door.” ■

talks & events

Folio Talks and Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, e-mail or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in Folio and on ExpressNews at: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/events/submit.cfm>. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: 12 noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

UNTIL JAN 14, 2008

Golden Cockerel's Polite Erotica: A Legacy of Endurance and Distinction Featuring illustrated books from one of the great British private presses of the early twentieth century. Many of the books feature nude engravings, an expression of the owners' ideas about bookmaking. Bruce Peel Special Collections Library. (Curator: Robert Desmarais) Admission is free and library hours are posted online. Rutherford Library, North and South (Humanities and Social Sciences) <http://www.library.ualberta.ca/specialcollections/index.cfm>

UNTIL FEB 28, 2008

Influenza Campaign 2007 (University Health Centre) The University Health Centre offers influenza shots to students, their immediate family and staff at the University of Alberta. Rates are as follows: Students: \$8, non-Students: \$15. The flu vaccine is free to: Health Care Professionals and students in health faculties working hands on with patients, individuals at high risk of being infected by the virus, individuals considered capable of transmitting influenza to persons who are high risk. For information on eligibility for the free vaccine please refer to Capital Health Authority's website at www.capitalhealth.ca/YourHealth/Campaigns/FluSeason2-2007 Students' Union Building (SUB) <http://www.ualberta.ca/healthcentre>

UNTIL DEC 15, 2007

Dressed to Rule: 18th Century Court Attire in the Mactaggart Art Collection An exploration of the significance of design and symbolism of 18th Century Chinese imperial costume, *Dressed to Rule* features a selection of Chinese court attire, dating from the Qing dynasty (1644 - 1911). In Imperial China, clothing signalled levels of formality and rank, ensuring order and stability by identifying the status of each member of society. These exquisite costumes promoted distinct national and political messages, keeping a ruling minority in power for nearly three centuries. Wednesdays through Saturdays from 12 noon - 5 p.m. Gallery A, Main Floor TELUS Centre daily behind-the-scenes tours of the storage and research spaces are held at 4:30 p.m. www.museums.mactaggart.ualberta.ca

Alcuin Awards for Excellence in Book Design FAB Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. 1-1 Fine Arts Building Gallery

Scott Cumberland: Somewhere in between Exhibition Dates: November 27 - December 15, 2007 Opening Reception: November 29, 2007 (7 - 10 p.m.) The reception is open to the public and free to attend. Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday: 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday, and statutory holidays 1-1 Fine Arts Building Gallery

UNTIL DEC 22, 2007

Undergraduate Forest Society Annual Christmas Tree Sale. White Pine, Scots Pine, Balsam Fir and Douglas Fir. 10 per cent of proceeds go to the United Way. Corbett Fields

DEC 14, 2007

Luncheon Roundtable for Directors and Chairs - December 2007 President Samarasekera invites directors and chairs to join her for lunch and an open discussion on topics of interest to you. If you are interested in attending, please submit your

RSVP online using the event URL. 12 noon - 1 p.m. Prairie Room Lister Centre <http://www.president.ualberta.ca/eventsvp.cfm?cfocache&event=1025>

DEC 19, 2007

Shindig! Catch up with former classmates and celebrate the holidays with a complimentary Golden Bear martini or Peppermint Panda hot chocolate courtesy of your Alumni Association. 4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

DEC 28 - 30, 2007

Pandas Hockey Gryphon Invitational 12 noon www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

JAN 1, 2008 - DEC 31, 2008

University of Alberta Centenary Event Join us as we celebrate 100 years of influencing the world through teaching, research, and good works. <http://www.100years.ualberta.ca/>

JAN 3 - 4, 2008

University Teaching Services - GTA Orientation The Winter 2008 Orientation for GTAs is scheduled for Thursday, 3 January and Friday, 4 January 2008. The orientation is aimed at new teaching assistants who may have extensive subject matter expertise but little teaching experience. All GTAs, new and returning, are encouraged to attend. Skilled faculty will lead workshops and seminars on effective teaching strategies. Sessions are free of charge and open to all graduate students. A Teaching Resource Manual is available to attendees. Advance registration is required. Register online at <http://utsregistration.ualberta.ca> CAB 243 Central Academic Building <http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts/>

JAN 3, 2008

University Teaching Services - Dare to Teach University Teaching Services (UTS) invites you to attend the Winter 2008 DARE TO TEACH day for sessional instructors. This professional development day is an opportunity for you to meet new colleagues and learn more about teaching. As a sessional instructor, you play a vital role in enhancing the learning environment for undergraduate students. This day of workshops and seminars focuses on feedback and evaluation and was planned in response to your requests for learning in these areas. Sessions are free of charge and open to all sessional instructors at the University of Alberta. Advance registration is required. Register online at <http://utsregistration.ualberta.ca> 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CAB 265 Central Academic Building <http://www.ualberta.ca/~uts>

JAN 4, 2008

Pandas Basketball Pandas vs. Calgary 6 p.m. Main Gym www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Bears Hockey Bears vs. Manitoba 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

JAN 5, 2008

Pandas Basketball Pandas vs. Calgary 6 p.m. Main Gym www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Bears Hockey Bears vs. Manitoba 7:30 p.m. Clare Drake Arena www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

Bears Basketball Bears vs. Calgary 8 p.m. Main Gym www.cubsclub.ualberta.ca

notices

Please send notices via e-mail public.affairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 12 noon Thursday one week prior to publication.

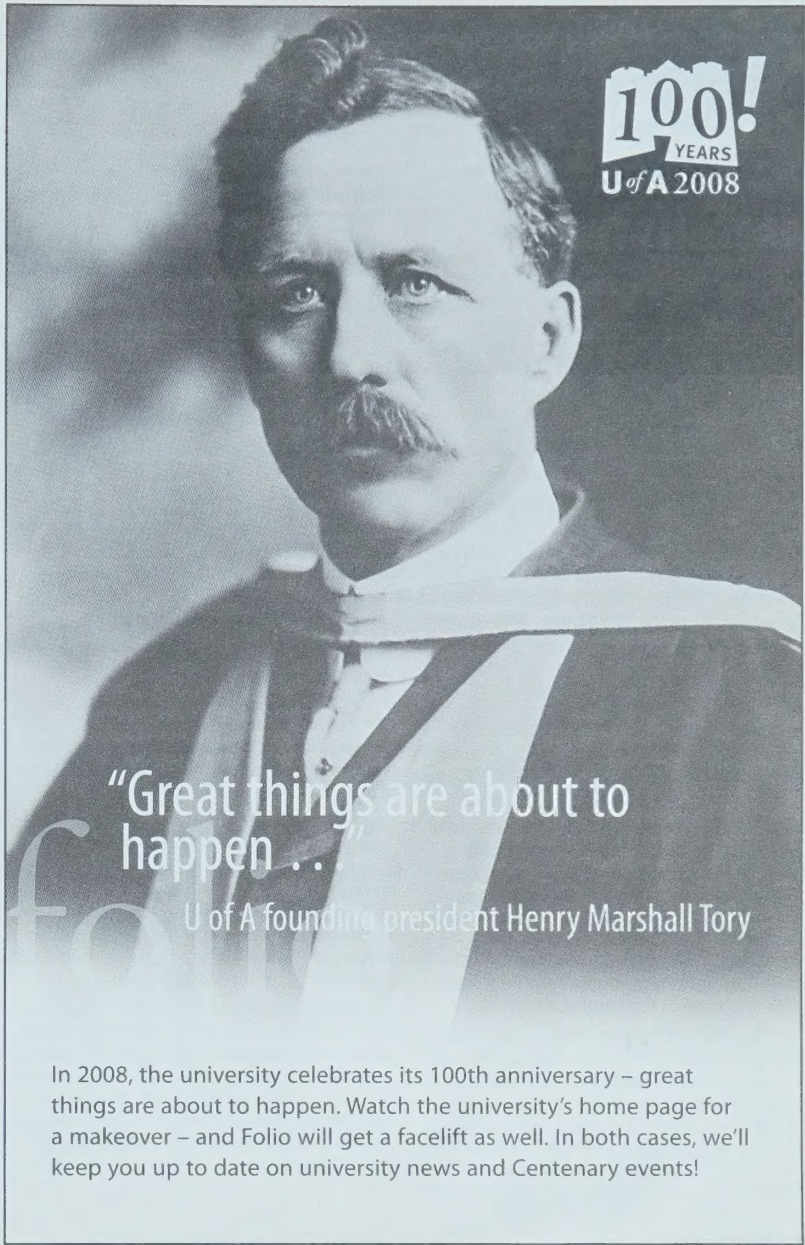
CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The Department of Sociology invites proposals to carry out research in impaired driving or other related social policy problems such as chronic alcoholism, drugs and traffic safety, and so on. Accrued interest from an endowment made by REID (Research and Education on Impaired Driving) will fund the successful proposal(s). The maximum amount available in this competition is \$12,000, which may be used to fund one research project or divided between two (or more) smaller projects. This competition is open to any university member conducting research relating to impaired driving and/or other related social policy problems. It will

be adjudicated by a panel of researchers chaired by the Department of Sociology.

Proposals should be submitted to:
Dr. Harvey Krahn
Department of Sociology
University of Alberta
5-21 HM Tory Building
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H4

The competition closes January 25th 2008. If you have any questions please contact the Assistant Chair at 780-492-0466.



100!
YEARS
U of A 2008

“Great things are about to happen . . .”

U of A founding president Henry Marshall Tory

In 2008, the university celebrates its 100th anniversary – great things are about to happen. Watch the university's home page for a makeover – and Folio will get a facelift as well. In both cases, we'll keep you up to date on university news and Centenary events!

Faculty of SCIENCE

Faculty of Science Research Award

We are seeking nominations for the Faculty's most promising young scientists for this annual award, which recognizes outstanding research achievement. Nominees must have obtained their doctorates in 1996 or later.

Deadline: January 15, 2008

For details of eligibility and conditions, please contact:

Dr. Renée Elio
Associate Dean (Research)
E-mail: ree@cs.ualberta.ca
(780) 492-3169
or
Crystal Moore
(780) 492-7488
crystal.moore@ualberta.ca

Faculty of Science Award for Excellent Teaching

We are seeking nominations from students and departments in the Faculty of Science for this annual award for individuals with outstanding qualities in undergraduate teaching.

Deadline: January 18, 2008

For details of eligibility and conditions, please contact:

Dr. Brenda Leskiw
Associate Dean
E-mail: bleskiw@ualberta.ca
(780) 492-9452

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ROSSDALE, LA CAILLE, FORMER SHOW SUITE -98 Ave & 93 St. Lovely 3 storey townhouse with two side x side underground heated parking stalls. This home is still in beautiful show suite condition. 3rd floor theatre room and office w/ balcony, two second floor bedrooms with ensuites, walk-in closets & balconies. Main floor living room, dining nook, spacious kitchen and large peninsula. Could leave some furnishings or equipment. Air-conditioned, alarm system with cameras. Call JANET FRASER, (780) 441-6441, jennfra@interbaun.com, Gordon W. R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp.

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EXECUTIVE SOUTHSIDE CENTRAL: TWIN BROOKS BI-LEVEL - Located in an executive complex this lovely and spacious home is available for immediate occupancy. Showings easily arranged through our office. Two bedrooms located upstairs and one downstairs (big windows downstairs), three bathrooms, gas fireplace. The landscaping is beautiful. Located at 11717 - 9B Avenue NW. Call: JANET FRASER, (780) 441-6441, jennfra@interbaun.com, Gordon W. R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp

CENTRAL - VICTORIA PLAZA - UNIT #803, 11710 - 100 AVENUE - Great location in a unique building with a panoramic view of the U of A and the North Saskatchewan River valley. Very spacious two bedroom unit with one underground parking stall. 1460 sq. ft. Gorgeous view in many directions. Building amenities include swimming pool, Jacuzzi, social room and fitness area. Available after Dec. 14th. For details call Janet Fraser, (780) 441-6441 Gordon W. R. King and Associates Real Estate.

CENTRAL - VICTORIA PLAZA - UNIT #1703, 11710 - 100 AVENUE - Fabulous central location in the heart of Oliver with the river trails and shopping right outside your door. Great view of the river valley and UofA. Large unit with 1460 square feet, two bedrooms one underground parking. \$2200/mo. Available after Dec. 24th. Building amenities include swimming pool, Jacuzzi, fitness room and social room. For further details call Janet Fraser @ (780) 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc Real Estate

CENTRAL - THE ARCADIA - LUXURIOUS - high style executive unit on two levels overlooking the river valley and UofA. Three bedrooms with a den/office, designer kitchen, living and dining rooms all with spectacular views. Fully upgraded with beautiful materials. \$3500/mo. Available after January 1, 2008. Please call Janet Fraser for details (780) 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate

RIVERBEND/BRANDER GARDENS EXECUTIVE LIVING! - Architect designed four level split, 2150 sq.ft. Fully furnished three bedrooms upstairs, office on main floor two full baths, 8 appliances. Spacious dining room with hardwood floors, walkout deck with pergola. Gas fireplace in living room, walkout to private wooded area. Security system. Attached double garage with one spot available. Available immediately until August 15 /08 Negotiable for shorter term if necessary. \$2000/mo. plus utilities. For further details call Janet Fraser (780) 441-6441 Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate

CENTRAL - VICTORIA PLAZA #1603, 11710 - 100 AVENUE BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL! - Spectacular hexagonal high rise building with a commanding view of the Saskatchewan River Valley and the University of Alberta. The unique style of the building allows for huge balconies and many large windows and a view in several directions. This condo has 2 large bedrooms, one full bath and one half bath, L-shaped formal living room and dining room, well-designed kitchen with spacious eating area, in-suite washer and dryer, garbage disposal, large storage unit, three cable outlets and three phone outlets. The entire unit is flooded with light enhanced by neutral decor. Building offers many amenities including a large swimming pool and Jacuzzi, fitness room, social room. There is a building

manager on site. There is secure underground parking for two vehicles. Rent is \$2200.00 and includes all utilities. Available immediately. Call Janet Fraser for details@ 780-441-6441 Gordon W.R. King @ Associates Real Estate

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOM, HI-RISE CONDOMINIUM - adjacent to UofA. (Claridge House 11027-87 Ave.) 1,418 sq. ft., 7 appliances, in-suite laundry, A/C, swimming pool, (underground heated parking), 1,900/month includes utilities. Available January 1, 2008. Phone (780) 430-6797 or e-mail bubel@telusplanet.net

FURNISHED, LARGE, ONE BEDROOM SUITE - Gorgeous location and views. Short LRT to university. Ideal for single professional. (780) 477-7036.

WESTWIND ESTATES, PRIME LOCATION - 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, for RENT OR SALE. Awesome view, woodburning fireplace, walking distance to downtown, UofA, legislature, across from LRT. Ph (780) 482-6597.

EXECUTIVE TWO BEDROOM HIGHRISE CONDO - 1001 sq., ft., renovated downtown core furnished, beautiful view, all amenities, all utilities, parking stall, \$1500/mth. Excellent, available, January 2nd, tel (780) 455-6665.

BRAND NEW CONDO IN TERWILLIGER TOWNE - 1270 sq.ft., close to schools, shopping and public transportation. Easy access to Whitemud Freeway and Anthony Henday Drive. 3 bd rms, 1.5 bath, wood laminate flooring on main floor, carpet on upper level. Includes 6 appliances (stainless steel), walk-in kitchen pantry, and attached garage. No smokers, no pets. Call (780) 449-7175 p.m., cell (780) 952-7175

EXECUTIVE CONDO 11716-100 AVE - 1140 sq., ft., RIVER VALLEY, open floor plan, 2 bedroom, 2 full baths, gas fireplace, professionally renovated with brand new hardwood throughout, paint, ceramic bathroom floors. Nice west exposure, lots of light, balcony faces quiet, tree lined neighborhood street with partial river valley views, gas barbecue outlet. Very quiet, professional building with easy access to river valley walking trails,

UofA and many downtown and neighborhood amenities. Includes, underground parking and storage. All appliances including in-suite storage room with washer/dryer. Heat and water included. N/S/No pets. \$1650/mth. Available early December. Ph. (780) 908-1078

ROOM AVAILABLE IN SPACIOUS BASEMENT - Private bathroom, shared sitting space and kitchen. Space is bright and newly carpeted with gas fireplace. Furnished with internet, phone and utilities included. \$165.00/week

LOVELY AVONMORE BUNGALOW - 2 +1 bd rms, hardwood, 5 appliances, huge rec room, single garage, close to shopping, bus, Millcreek. Available until April/ May 2008. \$1500 + utilities. (780) 690-7905

BIG LAKE ESTATES - Turnkey furnished, 2000 sq. ft. bungalow, 2 bd rms + den, L.R. D.R. attached garage. 3 full bathrooms, 3 f/p (2 gas, 1 wood). Property has well. 10 mins to W.E.M. Landlord can provide snow removal + yard maint. (780) 903-3815

HIGH LEVEL CROSSING CONDO - Walk to UofA, hospital and Old Strathcona. New upscale, 2 bd rm adult condo. Quiet cul-de-sac at 86 Avenue and 108 Street. In-suite laundry, gas fireplace, 2 undgrd parking stalls. Natural gas incld in rent \$1850/month. (780) 436-3609

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SALE

GARNEAU! WALK TO UofA - Built in 2000, 3 bedroom, 2 storey, double attached garage, hardwood, maple kitchen, all appliances, finished basement. 11008 80 Ave. \$699,000 low maintenance! Suzanne Piquette RE/MAX (780) 441-1799.

OLD GLENORA - beautifully treed 7000 sq. ft. residential lot between Alexander Circle and Churchill Crescent. Lot value only. \$679,000. (780) 619-3342

NEW CONDO HALF BLOCK FROM UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL - 2 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, 6 appliances, large balcony, underground heated parking. Corner suite, university view, upper floor security.

Telephone: (780) 238-9369.

DOWNTOWN (CHURCHILL SQUARE) LOFT CONDO - in solid concrete heritage building. 1464 square feet, 2 bd rms, 16' living room ceilings, wood floors, gas fireplace, all appliances, A/C. 1 underground parking stall. Minutes from Winspear, Citadel, Edmonton Centre, University of Alberta Enterprise Square, river valley trails. Steps to LRT/ buses. Asking \$474,500. For information, photos or appointment to view, email reniel144@gmail.com or call (780) 420-6367

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MARRIED PROFESSIONAL COUPLE - seeks family home for rent or house sitting services for period of six to twelve months commencing anytime between March and July 2008. Non-smokers, no pets. Please respond via e-mail. paulose@shaw.ca

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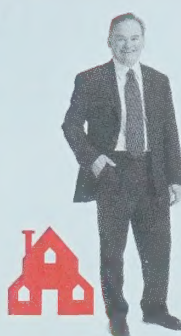


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Book compiles personal stories told through imagery

By Richard Cairney

James Dempsey is pretty up front about his new book: "It's a book full of murder and intrigue and theft, and not-necessarily-nice acts of taking people's hair and other body parts."

He's also quick to point out that *Blackfoot War Art: Pictographs of the Reservation Period, 1880 – 2000* is a scholarly work, not a coffee table book, even though one reviewer seemed relieved that "it still works as a coffee table book."

A professor in the Faculty of Native Studies and former director of the School of Native Studies, Dempsey spent more than a decade researching and tracking down stories and images that fill the book, en route to earning his PhD in art history from the University of East Anglia.

Many of the images illustrate not only battles, but also a way of looking at war and warfare that is unfamiliar in modern society.

"Even the term 'war' brings up difficulty in translation. I've had a number of people try to translate 'warfare' to me," Dempsey said, adding that the word 'gamble' is a more accurate translation of the

Blackfoot's view of war – which is a risky venture.

Plains Indians, he observes, were not out to exterminate one another or to take land from one another, although that did happen. Rather, the purpose of 'war' "was for individuals to gain status and honour within their band or tribe."

There is a similar twist to the practice of stealing horses from enemy camps. "Different cultures have different ways of looking at activities. Horse stealing was thought of as horse 'raiding'." Dempsey says, for example, that taking horses from an enemy tribe was thought of as raiding, but taking horses from a member of your own tribe would be regarded as theft.

People who came away from an enemy camp with horses would give them away within a few days, as a way of advertising their status, he added.

Other ways status was communicated was through pictographs on robes and teepees. And Dempsey's book is a rich collection of imagery that recounts the battles, raids, and life stories of the Blackfoot – including modern versions. ■



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Pictographs on robes and teepees indicate status by telling life stories.
Images from *Blackfoot War Art: Pictographs of the Reservation Period, 1880–2000*.